Besides, as per available information, during this period, more than 250 terrorists/members of banned organisations are reported to have been arrested in the hinterland.

Investigations have revealed that a number of arrested persons have external linkages.

Rejection of Orissa Government's Request from NCCF

3934. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether Government has rejected the demand of Orissa Government for grant of Rs. 306 crores from the National Calamity Contingency Fund for restoration work in the last flood-affected districts of the State;

if so, the reasons therefor;

whether a Central Team which has visited the State to assess the loss caused by last floods, in their report had admitted that the State had suffered a huge loss due to floods; and

if so, what are the salient observations of the Central Team in the matter and how far have their recommendations been implemented by the Centre to provide relief to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) The State Government of Orissa has submitted a memorandum seeking additional assistance of Rs. 306.70 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for relief operations in the areas affected by floods during July, 2007. The Inter Ministerial Central Team visited the State and observed that situation caused by floods is of a severe nature. The request of the State has been considered as per laid down procedure. The High Level Committee (HLC) after taking into consideration the memorandum of the State Government, report of the Central Team, recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group thereon and the items and norms for expenditure from Calamity Relief FundL(CRF)/ National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), approved the following assistance:—

(D Release of Rs. 59.33 crore from NCCF subject to the adjustment of 75% of balance available in the CRF account for the instant calamity.

(ii) Release of Rs. 0.719 crore from Special Component of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)

(iii) Payment of Air bills an actual basis.

The State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the areas affected by natural calamities. The distribution of relief on ground is the responsibility of concerned State. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support. Financial assistance in the wake of natural calamities is providedio the States from the Scheme of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is supplemented by the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of a calamity of a severe nature, after following the laid down procedure.

The State of Orissa has been allocated an amount of Rs. 319.37 crore in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 2007-08 consisting of Rs. 239.53 crore as Central contribution and Rs. 79.84 crore as State contribution. Both the instalments of Central share of CRF, totaling to Rs. 239.53 crore, has been released to the State.